

# OSW Community Meeting MINUTES

## Thursday 9/15/2022

Prepared by: Mary Anne Mather & Clay Trinkle

6:00-6:30 Social (Thank you Mary Jo Gale & Julie Gale for hosting.)

WELCOME: who is new to meetings? new to neighborhood in 2022?

**OSW meeting called to order:** 6:30pm

**Board present:** Mark Hostetter (pres), David Jeavons (Treas), Elaine Fleck, Julie Gale, Mary Jo Gale, Mary Anne Mather, Terry McGuire, Clay Trinkle (sec)

**Board absent:** Erica Danko (V-P), Phillip Morgan, Julie Mugford

**Attendees:** 28+ neighbors, including Jeff White/Code Enforcement, Presenter-Bill Bestpitch/City Council, Parviz Moosavi/Architectural Review Board, Sherry Roberts/City Solid Waste.

July and August 2022 Community Meeting Minutes: approved

NOTE: In the future, minutes will be sent by email & will be put on the OSW website.

Encouraged people to read & learn about all the great things going on in our neighborhood.

**Order of business suspended/reorganized to accommodate guests:**

**Guest Presenter:** Bill Bestpitch, Roanoke City Council

Historic Marker Project: Unveiling at Franklin/Mountain Sept 21. 5:30. Coordinated with the Equal Justice Initiative. Marks the lynching of Thomas Smith that took place on the site in 1893 as a reflection of America's history related to racial inequality. Details of the circumstances were shared. There will be an essay contest for HS students.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Plans to create a Pocket Park at Day Ave/8<sup>th</sup> St are underway. Interested? Contact Terry McGuire (stephen.terry.mcguire@gmail.com)
- Gish House security cameras installed & working!
- Black Crepe Myrtles were relocated from demolished Ramada Inn to Gish House. Thank you volunteers!
- EVENTS:
  - All Neighbors Invited: Block Pride Neighborhood Clean-up Oct 1<sup>st</sup> 8 - noon
  - OSW Parlor Tour Fundraiser is back: 12/3 & 12/4. Volunteers needed. Contact Phillip Morgan (parksidemanor55@yahoo.com)
  - Alexander Gish House clean up mid-October. We need YOU!!

### 1. OSW Events

Explained 3 types: Work Parties, Fundraising, Social

Have an event idea? Contact Erica Danko ([edanko122@gmail.com](mailto:edanko122@gmail.com)) Upcoming events handout distributed. Involvement encouraged.

## 2. OSW Safety & Nuisance Issues Update

Neighborhood safety is a priority!

--Introduce guests:

**Jeff White, City of Roanoke Code Enforcement:** OSW inspector, Daria Eilich, has left. Job is posted. Calls about problems are appreciated. Accomplishments in OSW Jul 1-Aug 31: Multiple violations cited, including stop-work orders. 22 rental inspections. 16 weeds & trash citations closed. 30 repair cases closed. Code enforcement work in OSW is aggressive.

Community requested update on Southwest Market issues: Owner of 6-unit across from Sunnyside is being inspected. Sunnyside reported that things seem calmed down some. Jeff was not aware that Daria planned to identify/contact the Southwest Market property owner. Carry Blankenship reported an abandoned vehicle on 4<sup>th</sup> St. since February. Has been reported to the city without action (police matter).

### **Parviz Moosavi: Architectural Review Board**

Commented on unsafe structure at corner of Marshall and 8<sup>th</sup>. Stop work order (back wall collapsed). Owner has now applied for a work permit--on Oct ARB agenda. ARB Meeting : Oct. 13, 5PM. New ARB board position open, needs to be filled by an OSW resident.

**Sherry Roberts from City Solid Waste** discussed Oct 1 Block Pride logistics. 27-year tradition (twice a year). Their equipment will be stationed on 8<sup>th</sup> St (8<sup>th</sup> and Day Ave).

**Safety report:** two vehicles stolen in OSW, but recovered. Crime map is available online. URL will be provided. Elaine Fleck and a parent noted concern about speeding near park and near Highland Park School. Asked about adding speed mitigation measures. No action taken. Sheriff's car is parked there, but not doing much to solve the issue. Ideas to decrease speeding could include speed cameras, speed humps, small roundabouts in intersections.

**3. Housing Needs:** Alex Wilson: Housing Operations, Radford University. Needs leads for affordable, safe student housing.

**4. OSW switch to Glo-Fiber:** Saves money. New phone number will be updated on website, etc.

## 5. Program Ideas/Requests?

--Invite a judge to encourage for stricter enforcement (especially of absentee landlords).

--Have an expert speak about upkeep of older homes. (Also, pool ideas & post on OSW website, i.e., recommendations of people others have used, old house maintenance info, and sources)

Adjourn 7:57PM